Matthew Tilley
874 Cook Road
Rural Hall, NC 27045

January 16, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
610 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

I am writing as a member of the public to respond for public comments concerning the Microsoft settlement before Judge Kollar-Kotelly. I am an executive at marketing firm with a wife and two children. I am also going back to school in hope of receiving my MBA. As you can probably tell, I am a great believer in people such as Bill Gates who came out of nowhere and built a great company whose products nearly everyone buys and who has made my work on the computer a whole lot easier.

During the entire period that the government has prosecuted Microsoft, I have strongly opposed the suit and written such an opinion to my Congressmen and Senators. I still believe that the suit was greatly aided by Microsoft's competitors who still are trying to influence the proceedings even today. However, since Microsoft, the federal government and nine attorneys general have agreed to the settlement, I want to lend my support as an interested citizen.

I believe that with any settlement that the provisions are fair for both sides. These are much the same provisions as months earlier when the attorneys general turned down a settlement and sent the financial markets, including Microsoft stock, into a tailspin from which it has never recovered. Millions of dollars have been lost from people's pension funds and individual accounts because of government intervention and the refusal of some AGs to be reasonable.

I regret that these few individuals, even now, refuse to go along with the settlement and so their lawsuit continues. Thanks goodness, as a taxpayer, I will not any further burden because North Carolina has wisely withdrawn its lawsuit and the federal government, which wasted $30 million on the effort, will shortly shut its doors on this sad chapter as well.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Matthew Tilley